

From: John Talbot
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/10/01 8:49am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Renata,

The opinion that I relegate may not impact your decision since I am a Canadian citizen. The case for which you are deciding has far greater impact than just your borders, so as see it my thoughts on the matter are quite important.

My background is very technical, working in firmware design for Nortel. For those not in the business this would be equivalent to the BIOS of PC's. Extremely low level. I'd like to also point out that these are my opinions and not my employer and should not in any way be construed as such.

I've been following the Microsoft antitrust case for some time. It is very clear to me that Microsoft was in fact guilty of monopolistic activities and was indeed found guilty in such matters. Since the early days of Windows trying to shut out Dr. DOS, these practices continue today. Detailed in the court trial are Microsoft's attempts to shut out Netscape, but they hardly touch on Windows XP trying to shut out AOL's instant messenger; proving that the court's time has been nothing more than a rouse to stall for time so that Microsoft can further more extend it's monopoly.

My background dictates that there is a clear distinction between operating system and applications and is founded on decades of experience. The only viable solution to stop Microsoft from capitalizing on others ideas due to their dominance of the WinPC architecture and sure abundance of funds is to proceed with the original conclusions by breaking up the company into at least two parts, that of platform/OS and applications. No longer could Microsoft bundle their own spin of an application with their next generation of operating system to systematically wipe out a competitors product.

Failure to do so now will make it more than impossible in the future as I believe that there can only be one David to slew such a goliath.

John Talbot

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